

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
May 9, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** Attorney John Bushemi gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** All members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**

President Hardaway commended our Police, Fire, and EMA divisions for their participation with the United Front 2017 disaster-response training exercise. Brief discussion followed.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated May 9, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 25<sup>th</sup> & April 30<sup>th</sup> 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Minchuk had no report.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Ms. LaMarca spoke of the submitted proposals regarding the feasibility study for the community center. The Parks Department recommended accepting the proposal from The Arsh Group. A representative from The Arsh Group was present to speak about the project and any questions that may arise. Discussion followed. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the proposal from The Arsh Group including a condition not to exceed \$30,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

President Hardaway commented on seeing a lot of tall grass around town. He encouraged all Council Members to keep an eye out within their Wards and to contact code enforcement with any addresses that may need attention.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-07:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Fire and Hazmat Fund for the year 2017 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-05:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Cumulative Fire Equipment Fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2017 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Discussion followed. There was no public comment. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 17-11:** A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, making deductions in the 2017 budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 17-12:** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana accepting the transfer of two (2) lots within the Waterford Subdivision for the purpose of installing a public park subject to certain conditions. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

**Petitioner:** Steven Colon  
**Owner:** James Buchanan  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Martial Arts Academy  
**Location:** 8890 Louisiana Street  
**Zoning:** M-1, Limited Industrial  
**Case #:** Z13E7-0417

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request including any conditions. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Stephen Dunn  
**Owner:** Samos Properties, LLC  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Used automobile sales and service  
**Location:** 1050 West 81st Avenue  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z14E8-0417

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request including any conditions. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Jeremy Bachman  
**Owner:** Robert Ishii  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Wine and Canvas Studio  
**Location:** 7884 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-2, Community Commercial  
**Case #:** Z16E9-0417

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request including any conditions. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve with discussion that there will be no alcohol leaving the facility. The motion was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** William Trozzy  
**Owner:** Robert Ishii  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Proposed lockup live entertainment business  
**Location:** 7880 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-2, Community Commercial  
**Case #:** Z16E10-0417

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request including any conditions. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve with condition that all requirements from the fire inspection will need to be completed. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Lakenya Blair  
**Owner:** Donald L. Plumb  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Proposed daycare and school  
**Location:** 64 West 67th Avenue  
**Zoning:** C-2, Community Commercial  
**Case #:** Z16E11-0417

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request including any conditions. Discussion followed among the Town Council. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to table the request. The motion to table was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Environmental Resource Committee meeting, May 18, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Town Council meeting, May 23, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac.

---

**Richard Hardaway, President**

---

**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**